## Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: AMERICAN LABOR CONTRIBUTES TO ITALIAN

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

REF: STATE 198991

SUMMARY: THE PRESENTATION BY THE AFL-CIO OF \$114,000 IN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF MADE A CONSIDERABLE FAVORABLE IMPACT IN THE FRIULO REGION. END SUMMARY.

1. HOWARD MOLISANI, PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN-AMERICAN LABOR COUNCIL AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION, TOGETHER WITH IRVING BROWN, THE AFL-CIO'S REPRESENTATIVE IN EUROPE AND AT THE ILO, PRESENTED A CHECK FOR \$114,000 IN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF TO ANTONIO COMELLI, PRESIDENT OF THE FRIULI REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, ON AUGUST 11. THE PRESENTATION, WHICH RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL REGIONAL PRESS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COVERAGE, REPRESENTS THE FIRST INSTALLMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS

BY AMERICAN LABOR TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE PRIVATION CAUSED BY THE MAJOR EARTHQUAKE IN FRIULI LAST MAY.

2. MOLISANI AND BROWN WERE ACCOMPANIED BY PAOLO SARTORI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF CISL'S AGRICULTURAL WORKERS UNION (FISBA) AND BY VITTORIO PAGANI, NATIONAL SECRETARY OF UIL, ALONG WITH THE EMBASSY'S LABOR ATTACHE AND VARIOUS CISL AND UIL LABOR LEADERS OF THE TRIESTE/UDINE AREA. IN ADDITION TO CALLING ON GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS OF THE REGION AND TOURING THE DAMAGED AREA, MOLISANI AND BROWN EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH THE ITALIAN LABOR LEADERS, PRIMARILY ON THE SUBJECTS OF LABOR UNITY AND ON THE RESUMPTION OF CLOSE TIES BETWEEN ITALIAN AND AMERICAN UNIONS.

COMMENT: THE GENEROSITY OF THE AFL-CIO GESTURE MADE A SUBSTANTIAL FAVORABLE IMPACT IN THE TRIESTE/FRIULI AREA. ACCORDING TO PRESENT EXPECTATIONS, THE AFL-CIO CONTRIBUTIONS MAY RISE TO \$250,000. MOLISANI AND BROWN SEEM INCLINED TO RECOMMEND THAT FUTURE DONATIONS BE CHANNELED THROUGH CAREFULLY SELECTED ITALIAN LABOR AUSPICES, DIRECTED TOWARD THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SPECIFIC GOALS, PARTICULARLY PROJECTS WHICH WILL MAXIMIZE JOB CREATION IN THE AREA. VOLPE

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